(b) whether some of the ryots living there were recently prosecuted for the offence of fishing and fined;

(c) whether Attapadi in Malabar is within the territorial jurisdiction of the Sub-Magistrate of Palghat: if so, why they were prosecuted before the Sub-Magistrate of Avanashi in Coimbatore district; and

(d) whether Government have framed the rules contemplated in the Nilgiris Games Prevention Act II of 1879 and whether they are for sale?

A.—(a) Fishing in the waters referred to is regulated by the Nilgiri Fishing Rules published at pages 1429–30 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette,* dated the 11th August 1925.

(b) The Government understand that one man was recently prosecuted for fishing at Vellamari and that he was acquitted.

(c) Yes; but offences committed in this area against the rules are triable by the Deputy Tahsildar and Sub-Magistrate, Mettupalayam, who has been specially appointed a Magistrate of the second class for the purpose. The Government understand that the case against the man referred to in clause (b) was transferred to the Taluk Second Class Magistrate of Avanashi.

(d) The Nilgiri Fishing Rules are published every year in the *Fort St. George Gazette.*

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"With regard to (c), there is no answer to the question as to why that particular individual was prosecuted before the Sub-Magistrate of Avanashi?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai:—"The case was transferred to Avanashi, though it was first filed before another magistrate."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"Why was it transferred?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai:—"They laboured under a mistake that as the Sub-Magistrate was not a second-class magistrate the case should be transferred. But the rules specifically say that the Sub-Magistrate of Mettupalayam has all the powers of a second class magistrate in so far as these cases are concerned."

Use of the word 'Parian' in Summons forms in Ambur Sub-Magistrate's Court.

* 444 *Q.*—Mr. R. Veerian: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the word 'Parian' is used before the names of all Adi-Dravidas in writing while issuing summons to Adi-Dravidas to attend the Sub-Magistrate's Court at Ambur, North Arcot district; and

(b) if they have no information, whether they will be pleased to make inquiries into the matter?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) The attention of the District Magistrate will be drawn to hon. Member's statement.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Sir, with reference to clauses (a) and (b), not only in issuing summonses to the members of the depressed classes is such objectionable language being used, but also in calling the names of the members of the depressed classes before the Court. The Court duffadar or peon uses the objectionable word before the name of the member of the depressed classes. May I respectfully request the hon. Member in charge to kindly call for the information or a report from the Sub-Magistrate of that place ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I am prepared to go further ; I am prepared to issue instructions that the duffadar should not do so."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I am in a difficulty in regard to this matter. I have to distinguish between two sub-sects of the depressed classes, and then it is inevitable that I should use the words 'Mala' or 'Madiga'."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The word used here is only 'Parian', and it was only with regard to that that I was answering."

Honorary Magistrates.

Election of a member of the depressed classes to the Vadakarai Village Panchayat Court.

* 445 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any member belonging to the depressed classes was duly elected to the Vadakarai Village Panchayat Court during the election which took place on 30th July 1924 in the Vadakarai village, Gudiyattam taluk, North Arcot district ;

(b) whether a copy of the resolution, dated 24th May 1925, of the Vadakarai Adi Dravida Conference has been received by the Government requesting them to exclude the depressed classes from the operation of the Panchayat Court ;

(c) whether it is a fact that no announcement was made among the depressed classes regarding the date of election of members to this Panchayat Court which took place on 30th July 1924 ; and

(d) if the Government have no information with reference to clauses (a) to (c), whether they will be pleased to call for the information ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Announcement of the intended election was duly made by beat of tom-tom in the portion of the village occupied by members of the depressed classes and a few Adi-Dravidas attended the election.

(d) Does not arise.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Sir, with reference to clause (a), I have got with me a mahazar submitted by the members of the depressed classes living in that village wherein it is stated that when they went to take part in election for the panchayat court they were actively prevented, abused and driven out by the caste people living in that locality in the presence of the then tahsildar who was conducting the election. May I therefore now request the hon. Member in charge to kindly call for a report so as to put a stop to similar unhappy incidents or occurrences ? "